

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were present for examination in the above-identified application. A new signed Declaration identifying the present application 10/717,263 filed November 19, 2003 and claiming continuing status from application 09/544,904 filed August 7, 2000 accompanies this Response.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Attached to this Response is a listing of the claims including numerical and verbal references to subject matter of the claims and where it is described in the text and drawings of the application as filed. Reference to the text is in terms of paragraph numbers shown in the published application (copy enclosed) and lines within the paragraphs. Claims 3, 6, 13 and 16 have been cancelled.

With regard to claim 1 (and similar claim 11) the various components and interconnection are readily apparent and explained in the attached Appendix. With regard to the term digital data bus, the applicant includes a definition of "digital" from the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. From this definition it is clear that applicant's line 62 conveys data in accordance with definition 3 that is "relating to discrete units". The transmission of such discrete units is discussed as generating an on-off output code in paragraph 39 of the description.

Claims 2 and 12 recite that the data bus is asynchronous. Again, a definition from Merriam-Webster Online is provided for the term "asynchronous". Definition 2 is, in essence, of digital communication for which there is no timing requirement. Such method of communication is described in paragraphs 38 and 39 of the description.

Claims 3 and 13 have been cancelled.

Claims 4 and 14 have been amended to delete control of "rate of travel" and now recite that one microcontroller controls travel of the door and makes calculations of the door's position. Such is fully described in paragraph 30.

Claims 5 and 15 have been amended to delete the statement of being "outside the garage". Paragraph 31 clearly sets forth the structure and operation of claims 5 and 15.

Claims 6 and 16 have been cancelled.

The enablement of claims 2-10 and 17-20 is clearly shown in the Appendix.

In view of the foregoing, applicant asserts that all remaining claims 1, 2, 5, 7-10, 11, 12, 15 and 17-20 are properly described and enabled under 35 U.S.C. 112. Accordingly, that rejection is traversed.

All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,624,605 to Powder et al. Powder et al. was filed June 6, 2001 and issued September 23, 2003. As applicant has shown the right to the claims remaining in the present application, applicant is entitled to the April 7, 2000 filing date of continuation parent Serial No. 09/544,904. Powder et al. is not a proper reference against the present application which pre-dates Powder's filing date by approximately 14 months. Accordingly the rejection of the present claims based on Powder et al. is traversed.

It should also be mentioned that the Powder et al. Patent has been assigned by Telephonics Corporation, its published owner, to The Chamberlain Group, Inc., the Assignee of the present application. A copy of the Assignment from Telephonics Corporation to The Chamberlain Group, Inc. as well as its Recordation Cover Sheet is provided herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 during its entire pendency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully requested,

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Application No. 10/717,263

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APPENDIX

CLAIMS

DESCRIPTION

1. An improved garage door opener comprising	Fig. 1, item 10; paragraph 27 and 28
a motor drive unit including a motor for opening and closing a garage door	(Figs. 1 and 2) item 24 which includes a motor 70 which is used to open and close garage door 16, paragraph 28
said motor drive unit having a microcontroller	Motor drive unit 24 includes a microcontroller 56 (Fig. 2), paragraph 29
and a wall console said wall console having a microcontroller	a wall control 60 (Fig. 2), paragraph 30; the wall control 60 (Fig. 4) includes a microcontroller 110, paragraph 31
said microcontroller of said motor drive unit being connected to the microcontroller of the wall console	microcontroller 56 of the drive unit is connected to microcontroller 110 of the wall control 60 via a bus 62
by means of a digital data bus	bus 62 conveys data between microcontrollers 56 and 110 by means of on/off output codes, paragraph 39, see also blocks 750-760, Fig. 12H
2. A garage door opener according to claim 1 wherein said digital bus is asynchronous.	The digital bus is described as being used when the portion of code shown is Fig. 12E is exercised, not on a regular timing basis.
4. The garage door opener according to claim 3 wherein at least one microcontroller controls the travel of said door and said one microcontroller makes calculations of the door's location during its travel.	microcontroller 56 controls the travel of the door 16 by controlling the motor 70 and in doing so receives signals from position indicator 80 to calculate the door's location, paragraph 30
5. The garage door opener according to claim 1 further comprising a keypad for operating the garage door opener and wherein said keypad is provided with a switch to turn on or off a light in the motor drive unit in the garage.	Wall control 60 includes a plurality of switches 120, 122, 124 and 126 and 120 is a light control switch, paragraph 31
7. The garage door opener according to claim 1 comprising apparatus at the wall console for requesting the status of the drive unit via the data bus.	microcontroller 56 controls the status of a light 72 (paragraph 30) and the microcontroller 110 of the wall console requests the status of the light via the data bus 62 (paragraph 38, line 39)

8. The garage door opener according to claim 7 comprising apparatus at the drive unit for responding to status requests from the wall console via the data bus.	See paragraph 10 the wall control can interrogate the drive unit with a request for information. A return data frame from the drive unit may include a frame indicating light status.
9. The garage door opener according to claim 1 wherein power for the wall console is provided from the drive unit via power conductors of the data bus.	Fig. 3B shows a +28V supply (upper left) which is connected via an unlabeled diode to the VDD terminal of microcontroller 110. It is notoriously well known that VDD denotes on integrated circuit power input terminal.
10. The garage door opener according to claim 9 wherein the power conductors convey both data and power.	As discussed above, bus 62 conveys both data and power to the microcontroller 110.
11, 12, 14, 15 and 17-20	See claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-10 above, respectively